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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,589	01/11/2002	Soeren H. Thomsen	29505/PF02187NA	4731

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EXAMINER

EWART, JAMES D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2683

DATE MAILED: 01/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/044,589

Applicant(s)

THOMSEN ET AL.

Examiner

James D Ewart

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1- 17 and 19-27 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Appelman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,539,421) and further in view of Metso et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,920,826).

Referring to claim 1, Appelman et al teaches a communication system providing real-time communication service to a plurality of subscribers, wherein the plurality of subscribers generates a plurality of real-time communication messages during a real-time communication session (Column 3, Lines 18 – 39), a method for providing a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message comprising: generating a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message (Column 9, Lines 49 – 50), the real-time communication message being generated by one of the plurality of subscribers (Figure 28); and transmitting the message creation reference and the real-time communication message (Figure 28). Although figures 16 to 31 show a time related message sequence and the time stamp provides the time when the message was sent, Appelman et al does not specifically teach that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference. Metso et al teaches that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time

communication messages based on the message creation reference (Column 10, Lines 50-52).

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the art of Appelman et al with the art of Metso et al in which the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference to provide the SMS page with horizontal and vertical button bars and additional icons to manipulate the messages (Column 10, Lines 5-16).

Referring to claim 9, Appelman et al teaches a communication system providing real-time communication service to a plurality of subscribers, wherein the plurality of subscribers generates a plurality of real-time communication messages (Column 3, Lines 18 – 39), and wherein an apparatus is adapted to provide a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message (Column 9, Lines 49 – 50), the apparatus comprising: a memory (Figure 2); a controller coupled to the memory (Figure 2), the controller being operable to generate a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message generated by one of the plurality of subscribers (Figure 28), and the controller being operable to transmit the message creation reference and the real-time communication message (Figure 28). Although figures 16 to 31 show a time related message sequence and the time stamp provides the time when the message was sent, Appelman et al does not specifically teach that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference. Metso et al teaches that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication

messages based on the message creation reference (Column 10, Lines 50-52). Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the art of Appelman et al with the art of Metso et al in which the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference to provide the SMS page with horizontal and vertical button bars and additional icons to manipulate the messages (Column 10, Lines 5-16).

Referring to claim 19, Appelman et al teaches a communication system for providing real-time communication service to a plurality of subscribers, wherein the plurality of subscribers generates a plurality of real-time communication messages (Column 3, Lines 18 – 39), and wherein a controller operates in accordance with a computer program (Column 3, Lines 18 – 31) embodied on a computer-readable medium for providing a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message (Column 9, Lines 49 – 50), the computer program comprising: a first routine that directs the controller to generate a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message (Column 9, Lines 49 – 50), the real-time communication message being generated by one of the plurality of subscribers; and a second routine that directs the controller to transmit the message creation reference and the real-time communication message (Figure 28). Although figures 16 to 31 show a time related message sequence and the time stamp provides the time when the message was sent, Appelman et al does not specifically teach that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference. Metso et al teaches that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality

of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference (Column 10, Lines 50-52). Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the art of Appelman et al with the art of Metso et al in which the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference to provide the SMS page with horizontal and vertical button bars and additional icons to manipulate the messages (Column 10, Lines 5-16).

Referring to claims 2, 13 and 20, Appelman et al further teaches wherein the step of generating a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message comprises generating a message creation reference associated with one of an instant messaging message and a group chat message (Column 3, Lines 18-31).

Referring to claims 3, 10 and 21, Appelman et al further teaches wherein the step of generating a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message comprises generating a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message in response to a subscriber input via one of an alphanumeric keypad, a numeric keypad, a touch-sensitive display and a microphone (Column 4, Lines 32-43).

Referring to claims 4, 14 and 22, Appelman et al further teaches wherein the step of generating a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message

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comprises generating a time stamp associated with a real-time communication message (Column 9, Lines 30-38).

Referring to claims 5, 6, 15, 16, 23 and 24, Appelman et al further teaches wherein the step of generating a message creation reference associated with a real-time communication message comprises generating one of a message identifier (Figure 18, 664) a subscriber identifier (Figure 3; 134 and 135 and Figure 18; 668, 676) and a hash value associated with a real-time communication message based on an incoming message parameter, and wherein the incoming message parameter is associated with an incoming message from one of the plurality of subscribers (Figures 20 and 21).

Referring to claims 7, 11, and 25, Appelman et al teaches the limitations of claims 7, 11 and 25 including wherein the step of transmitting the message creation reference and the real-time communication message comprises transmitting the message creation reference and the real-time communication message in response to a subscriber input via one of an alphanumeric keypad, a numeric keypad, a touch-sensitive display and a microphone (Column 4, Lines 32-43). Although figures 16 to 31 show a time related message sequence and the time stamp provides the time when the message was sent, Appelman et al does not specifically teach that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference. Metso et al teaches that the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference (Column 10, Lines 50-52). Therefore, at the

time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the art of Appelman et al with the art of Metso et al in which the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages based on the message creation reference to provide the SMS page with horizontal and vertical button bars and additional icons to manipulate the messages (Column 10, Lines 5-16).

Referring to claims 8, 12 and 26, Appelman et al teaches the limitations of claims 8, 12 and 26 including wherein the step of transmitting the message creation reference and the real-time communication message comprises transmitting the message creation reference and the real-time communication message during one of an instant messaging session and a group chat session (Figure 28 and Column 3, Lines 18-31). Although figures 16 to 31 show a time related message sequence and the time stamp provides the time when the message was sent, Appelman et al does not specifically teach wherein the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages. Metso et al teaches the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages (Column 10, Lines 50-52). Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the art of Appelman et al with the art of Metso et al wherein the real-time communication message is arranged relative to the plurality of real-time communication messages to provide the SMS page with horizontal and vertical button bars and additional icons to manipulate the messages (Column 10, Lines 5-16).

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Referring to claim 17, Appelman et al further teaches wherein the apparatus comprises one of a cellular telephone, a pager, an electronic planner, and a communication network (Column 13, Lines 20-22).

Referring to claim 27, Appelman et al further teaches wherein the medium comprises one of paper, a programmable gate array, application specific integrated circuit, erasable programmable read only memory, read only memory, random access memory, magnetic media, and optical media (Column 13, Lines 49-56) .

2. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Appelman et al and Matsumoto et al and further in view of Isaacs et al. (U.S. Patent Pub no. 2002/0026483).

Referring to claim 18, Appelman et al and Matsumoto et al teach the limitations of claim 18, but do not teach wherein the apparatus comprises one of an Internet Protocol (IP) network and a General Packet Radio Services (GPRS) network. Isaacs et al teaches wherein the apparatus comprises one of an Internet Protocol (IP) network and a General Packet Radio Services (GPRS) network [0027]. Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Appelman et al and Matsumoto et al with the teachings of Isaacs et al wherein the apparatus comprises one of an Internet Protocol (IP) network and a General Packet Radio Services (GPRS) network to allow devices to communicate wirelessly [0027]

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Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James D Ewart whose telephone number is (703) 305-4826. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7am - 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on (703)308-5318. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)305-9508 for regular communications and (703)305-9508 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.



Ewart
January 6, 2004



WILLIAM TROST
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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